

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00600 182225Z
ACTION SS-25

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-----182233Z 070615 /73

R 181855Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5822
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

S E C R E T MAPUTO 0600

EXDIS

VIENNA FOR LAE AND MCHENRY

FROM USDEL MAPUTO

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR US WA SF
SUBJECT: TALKS WITH NUJOMA

REF: MAPUTO 578 (NOTAL, MAPUTO 580)

1. SWAPO
PRESIDENT SAM NUJOMA HAS GIVEN GREEN LIGHT FOR THE
CONTACT GROUP TO CONTINUE WORKING FOR A SOLUTION TO THE
NAMIBIAN PROBLEM. HOWEVER, SOME OF THE CONDITIONS HE
LAID DOWN IN TALKS WITH US AND OTHERS (REFTELS) HIGHLIGHT
THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH LIE AHEAD FOR THE CONTACT GROUP IN
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FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT.

2. SWAPO'S INSISTENCE ON KEY ROLE FOR THE COUNCIL FOR
NAMIBIA CONFLICTS WITH SAG UNDERSTANDING THAT IT WILL BE
DEALING ONLY WITH REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTED BY WALDHEIM AND
SUPPORTED BY STAFF DRAWN FROM UN SECRETARIAT. THE SOUTH
AFRICANS HAVE A STRONG AVERSION TO THE COUNCIL AND WILL BALK

AT ITS INCLUSION IN PROCESS LEADING TOWARD NAMIBIAN INDEPENDENCE. MOREOVER, THE SOUTH AFRICANS ARE LIKELY TO ACCUSE THE CONTACT GROUP OF HAVING ACTED IN BAD FAITH BY HAVING IMPLIED THAT THE COUNCIL WOULD BE DEALT OUT.

3. NUJOMA HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT SWAPO WANTS WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN SECURITY FORCES TO BE COMPLETED BEFORE ELECTIONS. AND HE HAS RAISED THE NEED FOR A UN PEACEKEEPING FORCE IN NAMIBIA. THE SOUTH AFRICANS HAVE AGREED ONLY TO DIRECT INVOLVEMENT OF THE UN IN THE ELECTORAL PROCESS. THEY DO NOT WANT THE UN TO TAKE ANY OTHER PART, INCLUDING PEACEKEEPING, IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE TERRITORY.

4. IN HIS DISCUSSION WITH US, NUJOMA SAID HE HAD NO OBJECTION TO MEETINGS BETWEEN THE CONTACT GROUP AND TURNHALLE REPRESENTATIVES, AS LONG AS THE CONTACT GROUP DOES NOT GO TO WINDHOEK AGAIN. IT WOULD BE ALL RIGHT, FOR EXAMPLE, IF THE CONTACT GROUP TALKED TO TURNHALLE PEOPLE IN CAPE TOWN.

5. NEVERTHELESS, HE REGARDS TURNHALLE AS A PUPPET ORGANIZATION OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT. THIS, IF, AS EXPECTED, THE "CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY" HAS SOME FLAVOR OF TURNHALLE, NUJOMA IS LIKELY TO DENOUNCE IT AS A DEVICE FOR PERPETUATING WHITE CONTROL OF NAMIBIA AND TO PRESS FOR UN ADMINISTRATION OF THE TERRITORY BEFORE ELECTIONS.

6. COMMENT: IN GENERAL, REACTION OF AFRICAN DELEGATION REGARDING WESTERN INITIATIVE ON NAMIBIA HAS BEEN FAVORABLE. IN TALKING WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UK, FRENCH, GERMAN AND SECRET

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CANADIAN DELEGATIONS, WE FIND AGREEMENT THAT THE CONTACT GROUP SHOULD MEET AGAIN IN NEW YORK AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE TO WORK OUT NEXT STEPS. THIS WOULD INCLUDE TACTICS FOR, AND TIME AND PLACE OF, NEXT MEETING BETWEEN THE CONTACT GROUP AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT.
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